

REMARKS

In response to Paragraph 1 of the Office Action, claims 1-19, previously withdrawn in view of a Restriction Requirement imposed in the previous Office Action, are now canceled. Claims 28-34 were canceled in response to the previous Office Action. Applicants reserve the right to pursue these claims in future continuing applications.

Further, the specification is amended as indicated above to correct the informalities noted in Paragraph 2 of the Office Action. Other rejections and/or objections are discussed in detail below.

Allowed Subject Matter

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation allowance of claims 20-27, 42 and 43.

Allowable Subject Matter

In Paragraph 25, the Office Action deems claims 38, 40 and 41 as allowable if rewritten in independent format to include the limitations of any base claim(s) on which depend. Accordingly, these claims are now rewritten in independent format to include the features of the base claim(s) on which they depend. Hence, claims 38, 40 and 41 are in condition for allowance.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103

The Office Action rejects 35-37 and 39 as being obvious in view of the combined teachings of U.S. Patent No. 5,999,587 of Ning and U.S. Patent No. 5,852,646 of Klotz.

As shown in the listing of the claims above, claims 35-37 and 39 are canceled. The cancellation of these claims are not intended as acquiescence to the Examiner's rejections but are made only to expedite the prosecution of the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in future continuing applications.

In view of cancellation of claims 35-37 and 39, their rejection over the cited art is moot and will not be discussed in any detail.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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